GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4692
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
EXPORT OF NUKE TECHNOLOGY TO IRAN
Pateriya Smt. Neeta;Patil Smt. Rupatai Diliprao Nilangekar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has put a ban on the export of nuclear technology to Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India has discussed the issue with Iran in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)-(b) The Director General of Foreign Trade issued a notification on 20 February 2007 (Notification No. 47 (RE-2006)/2004-2009) under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 to prohibit direct or indirect export and import of all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology which could contribute to Iran's enrichment related, reprocessing or heavy water related activities, or to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems. This is in pursuance of India's obligations under UN Security Council Resolution 1737 of 23 December 2006 adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council under Article 41 Chapter VII of the UN Charter.

(c)-(d) The issue of Iran's nuclear programme has been discussed during interactions with Iran at which Government has conveyed its consistent stand that all possible efforts should be made to resolve the issue through peaceful means, by dialogue and negotiations and the IAEA should play a central role in resolving outstanding issues. The UNSCR 1737 underscores the need for more active and transparent cooperation with IAEA for resolution of outstanding issues.